(b) Certain amendments to Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 are under consideration.

Dclhi-Badrinath Road as National Highway

3524. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut-Haridwar-Rishikesh-Joshimath-Badrinath road as a National Highway; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to limited allocation made available for Rational Highways in the 8th Plan, it is difficult at this stage to declare any new National Highways.

Permission to Sell Vessels by the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

3525. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. to sell 3 vessels at the market rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that SCICI refused to extend concessional rate of interest to Hindustan Shipyard Ltd; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following 3 bulk carriers ordered by Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) arc under construction in HSL:—

(i) One bulk carrier of 27,000 DWT.

(ii) Two bulk carriers of 42,750 DWT each.

The above vessels were permitted to be sold by open tender at a reserve price of Rs. 50 crores for the first vessel and Rs. 60 crores each for the other two vessels. It was also directed that M/s Shipping Corporation of India who had placed orders for these vessels, should be given the option to participate in the tender and also to match the highest offer.

(c) and (d) Hindustan Shipyard Limited has not approached SCICI to extend concessional rate of interest to Hindustan Shipyard Limited.

Airconditioned Buses from Delhi Airport to Punjab

3526. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared any proposal for starting airconditioned buses to carry passengers straight from Delhi Airport to Ludhiana and Jalandhar in Punjab; and

(b) if so, by when such buses are likely to be introduced?

THE' MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Accident Prone Portions of National Highway Grid

3527. SHRI GOPALSINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some portions of the National Highway grid have been declared as accident prone areas or death traps;

(b) if so, the details thereof perticularly in Gujarat, District-wise; and

(c) the causes of accidents on these

roads and the steps taken by Government to reduce these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps being taken to check road accidents on National Highways, include:—

(i) stringent measures for implementation of various safety provisions under Motor Vehicle Act.

(ii) provisions of wayside amenities and truck parking lay-byes;

(iii) highway patrolling;

(iv) setting up of National/State level Road Safety Councils;

(v) engineering improvements like geometric inprovements, treatment of accidents-prone locations, capacity augmentation, road intersection improvements, traffic control devices etc.

दिल्ली में बसें

3528. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 30 नवम्बर, 1992 की स्थिति के अनुसार दिल्ली में चलने वाली डी०टी०सी०, ग्रीन लाइन, रैडलाइन, व्हाइट लाइन, एस०टी०ए० परमिट वाली और मिनी बसों की संख्या क्या है?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर): ब्यौरे इस प्रकार हैं:—

दिल्ली परिवहन निगम (नगर सेवा)	:	3721
ग्रीन लाइन बसें	:	232
रैड लाइन बसें	:	1144
व्हाइट लाइन बसें	:	92
एस० टी० ए० परमिट वाली बसें	:	423
मिनी बसें	:	345

Pension Scheme for D.T.C. Employees

3529. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the pension scheme for the employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date from which the above scheme is likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the Scheme are given in the Statement. *{Set* below) The Scheme is to be effective from 3rd August, 1981. Statement

The pension scheme for DTC employees would be on the same pattern as for Central Government employees, subject to the following conditions:

(a) There would be no financial contribution by the Central Government and the entire financing of the pension would be done by the D.T.C. The Pension Scheme would be operated by the Life Insurance Corporation on behalf of DTC.

(b) The date of effect of the Pension Scheme should be 3rd August, 1981.

(c) All existing employees including those retired w.e.f. 3rd August, 1981 onwards would have an option to opt for the Pension Scheme or the Contributory Provident Fund as at present.

The DTC shall obtain option from its employees within 30 days from the date of issue of Circular by DTC for the implementation of Pension Scheme as approved by the Government of India.

(d) The Pension Scheme would be compulsory for all the new employees joining DTC w.e.f, the date of sanction of the scheme.